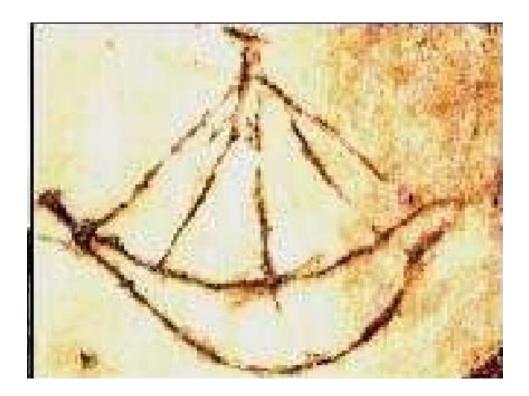
Hebrews 2. For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. <sup>6</sup>It has been testified somewhere, "What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him? <sup>7</sup>You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, <sup>8</sup>putting everything in subjection under his feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. <sup>9</sup>But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. <sup>10</sup>For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. <sup>11</sup>For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, <sup>12</sup>saying, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise." <sup>13</sup>And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Behold, I and the children God has given me." <sup>14</sup>Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. <sup>16</sup>For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.



Hebrews	"Jesus is Better"
1.1-3	Final Revelation, Full Redemption
1.4-14	"having become as much superior to angels"
2.1-4	"how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?"
2.5-18	"for a little while lower than the angels"

## 1. Dominion Regained

#### a. Rule

vs. 5-9 For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere, "What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him?

vs. 7,8 You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under his feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control.

God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

Genesis 1.26

The purpose of man – the meaning of man – is to stand in love as a creature before the Creator.

Francis Schaeffer

### b. Rebellion

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Genesis 2.15,16

For the wages of sin is death Romans 6.23

v. 8 At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him.

Man is not exercising dominion over creation today...he cannot control the fish, fowl, or animals...he has a hard time controlling himself.

Warren Wiersbe

When it was too late, they saw the folly of eating the forbidden fruit. They saw the happiness they had fallen from, and the misery they had fallen into. They saw a loving God provoked, and his grace and favor forfeited...They saw themselves disrobed of all their ornaments and ensigns of honor, degraded from their dignity...laid open to the contempt and reproach of heaven and earth, and their own consciences.

Matthew Henry

### c. Restoration

v. 9 But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

...our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel 2 Timothy 1.10

# 2. Despised but Resolute

vs. 10-13 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.

"...sufferings introduce a new perfection, a perfection of testedness. There is one perfection of the bud and another of the flower...it casts no doubt on the previous perfection, but it adds something to it...

...for Christians, as for their Master, there is perfection in suffering. Little as we may like them, the fires of affliction are the place in which the qualities of Christian character are forged" Leon Morris

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith..."

Hebrews 12.2

Faith in Christ is accompanied by many trials and much suffering...take Jesus as our example. He endured temptation and suffering that qualified him

Tesfaye Kassa

v. 11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source.

You are not foremost a white person or a black person or a brown person, but a new creature in the new humanity created by the resurrection of Jesus Christ...Christian community is best able to transcend the barriers...for we are one in Christ and no longer what we were before.

Richard Phillips

vs. 11, 12 That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, saying, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise."

v. 13 And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Behold, I and the children God has given me."

If God is your Father you must be special, you cannot help it. If the divine nature is in you, has entered into you through the Holy Spirit, you cannot be like anybody else; you must be different. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

### 3. Disarmed the Robber

vs. 14-16 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

I guess I fear dying because it involves a real loss of control. When you are dying, you have almost no control...an incredible vulnerability – and that's scary...one's last few minutes of life involve a vulnerability akin to one's first few minutes of life.

Robert Neale, The Art of Dying

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

John 10.10

v. 16 For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham

"Death has been swallowed up in victory" 1 Corinthians 15.54

The devil was undone and death's bite rendered insipid by Christ's death...Since death was the prescription for victory, the only way the Son could accomplish the needed task was to die, and the only way to die was to become human. This is the logic of the Incarnation.

George Guthrie

### 4. Despair is Removed

v. 17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

"It is like you and I are standing in front of a dam 10,000 miles high and 10,000 miles wide filled to the brim with water, and in one instant, that dam is let loose and all of that water comes rushing towards us. In the same way, the torrent of the wrath of God came rushing towards us. Now, imagine as that water comes towards you, right before that water hits you, the ground in front of you opens up and swallows every single drop. In the same way, Christ went to the cross. He took the full cup of a wrathful God, and He drank down every single drop."

Alexis See Tho

"Such a high priest meets our need - one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens...He sacrificed for their sins once and for all when he sacrificed himself." Hebrews 7.26,27

From a human point of view, it would seem foolish for God to become man; yet it was this very act of grace that made possible our salvation and all that goes with it...Jesus did not become inferior to the angels, for in His human body he accomplished what angels could never do...and he invites us to share his glory!

Warren Wiersbe

Genesis		Revelation		
Heaven and earth created	1.1	New heaven and new earth	21.1	
Sun created	1.16	No need of the sun	21.23	
Night established	1.5	No night there	22.5	
Seas created	1.10	No more seas	21.1	
Curse announced	3.14	Curse lifted	22.3	
Tree of Life blocked	3.24	Tree of Life accessible	22.14	
Sorrow and pain begin	3.17	No more tears or pain	21.4	

v. 18 For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

### 1. In Jesus we can Glimpse the Kingdom Even from Earth!

We are invited to join the mission of Jesus – the redemption, reconciliation, and renewal of all creation. We serve as shepherds, caring for the needs of people. But we also serve as prophets, fortelling a kingdom that is to come. In the eternal kingdom of heaven no one is hungry or abused or alone. When we reach out to others in kindness and compassion we declare the kingdom of God is here, on earth as it is in heaven.

Carlton Deal, Founder, "Serve the City"

We weren't just helping disabled children eat. We were proclaiming that people with special needs should receive special care.

City of Joy, a Charity for Disabled Children

We weren't just collecting socks for the homeless. We were announcing that the God of compassion pays attention to the smallest of needs for the most forgotten of people. **CASU**, a homeless shelter in Brussels

We weren't just giving manicures for the elderly. We were declaring that in the world we want to live in, old age is a gift and beauty never fades.

CASU, a homeless shelter in Brussels

#### 2. Our Real Life is Not on Earth

"There was a real railway accident," said Aslan softly. "Your father and mother and all of you are – as you used to call it in the Shadow-Lands – dead. The term is over: the holidays have begun. The dream is ended: this is the morning."

And as he spoke he no longer looked to them like a lion; but the things that began to happen after that were so great and beautiful that I cannot write them. And for us this is the end of all the stories, and we can most truly say that they all lived happily ever after. But for them it was only the beginning of the real story. All their life in this world and all their adventures in Narnia had only been the cover and title page: now at last

they were beginning Chapter One of the Great Story, which no one on earth has read: which goes on forever: in which every chapter is better than the one before.

C.S. Lewis, "The Last Battle"